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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

## NATIONAL SOCIETY

OF THE

## DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Adopted by the Twenty-eighth Continental Congress  
1919



**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

**OF THE**

**NATIONAL SOCIETY**

**OF THE**

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**1919**

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# Act of Incorporation

H. R. 3553

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

At the First Session begun and held at the City of Washington on the second day of December, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-five.

[ PUBLIC NO. 19 ]

An act to Incorporate the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Mary Parke Foster (Mrs. John W. Foster), of Indiana; Mary Virginia Ellet Cabell (Mrs. William D. Cabell), of Virginia; Helen Mason Boynton (Mrs. Henry V. Boynton), of Ohio; Henrietta Greely (Mrs. A. W. Greely), of Washington, District of Columbia; Lelie Dent Saint Clair (Mrs. F. O. Saint Clair), of Maryland; Regina M. Knott (Mrs. A. Leo Knott), of Maryland; Sara Agnes Rice Pryor (Mrs. Roger A. Pryor), of New York; Sara Ford Judd Goode (Mrs. G. Browne Goode), of Washington, District of Columbia; Mary Desha, of Kentucky; Sue Virginia Field (Mrs. Stephen J. Field), of California; Sallie Kennedy Alexander (Mrs. Thomas Alexander), of Washington, District of Columbia; Rosa Wright Smith, of Washington, District of Columbia; Sara C. J. Hagan (Mrs. Hugh Hagan), of Georgia; Mary Stiner Putnam (Mrs. John Risleley Putnam), of New York; Mary Leighton Shields (Mrs. George H. Shields), of Missouri; Ellen Hardin Walworth of New York; Mary E. MacDonald (Mrs. Marshall MacDonald), of Virginia; Eugenia Washington, of Virginia; Alice M. Clarke (Mrs. A. Howard Clarke), of Massachusetts; Clara Barton, of Washington, District of Columbia; Mary S. Lockwood, of Washington, District of Columbia; Frances B. Hamlin (Mrs. Teunis S. Hamlin), of Washington, District of Columbia; Martha C. B. Clarke (Mrs. Arthur E. Clarke), of New Hampshire; Lucia E. Blount (Mrs. Henry Blount), of Indiana; Jane A. O. Keim (Mrs. deB Randolph Keim), of Connecticut; Louise Ward McAllister, of New York; Effie Ream Osborne (Mrs. Frank Stuart Osborne), of Illinois; Maria Devereux, of Washington, District of Columbia; Belinda O. Wilbour (Mrs. Joshua Wilbour), of Rhode Island; Georgiana E. Shippen (Mrs. W. W. Shippen), of New Jersey; Julia K. Hogg (Mrs. N. B. Hogg), of Pennsylvania; Katherine C. Breckenridge (Mrs. Clifton R. Breckenridge), of Arkansas; Sara Isabella Hubbard (Mrs. Adolphus S. Hubbard), of California; Mary L. D. Putnam



(Mrs. Charles E. Putnam), of Iowa; Delia Clayborne Buckner (Mrs. Simon B. Buckner), of Kentucky; Emily Marshall Eliot (Mrs. Samuel Eliot), of Massachusetts; Lucy Grey Henry (Mrs. William Wirt Henry), of Virginia; Elizabeth Blair Lee, of Maryland; Mrs. Frances P. Burrows (Mrs. Julius C. Burrows), Mrs. Mary H. McMillan (Mrs. James McMillan), Mrs. Emma Gregory Hull (Mrs. J. A. T. Hull), Mrs. Mary B. K. Washington (Mrs. Joseph Washington), and their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate and politic, in the District of Columbia, by the name of the NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, for patriotic, historical and educational purposes; to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; by the acquisition and protection of historical spots and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records, of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries; to carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens; to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

SEC. 2. That said Society is authorized to hold real and personal estate in the United States, so far only as may be necessary to its lawful ends, to an amount not exceeding \$500,000, and may adopt a constitution and make by-laws not inconsistent with law, and may adopt a seal.

Said Society shall have its headquarters or principal office at Washington, in the District of Columbia.

SEC. 3. That said Society shall report annually to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution concerning its proceedings, and said Secretary shall communicate to Congress such portions thereof as he may deem of national interest and importance. The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution are authorized to permit said National Society to deposit its collections, manuscripts, books, pamphlets, and other material for history in the Smithsonian Institution or in the National Museum, at their discretion, upon such conditions and under such rules as they shall prescribe.

Approved February 20, 1896.

GROVER CLEVELAND,

THOMAS B. REED,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

A. E. STEVENSON,  
*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

I certify that the above is a true copy of an Act of Congress, the original of which is on file in this Department.

In testimony whereof, I, RICHARD OLNEY, Secretary of State of the United States, have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this 5th of May, A. D. 1896, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 120th.

RICHARD OLNEY.

[SEAL.]

[PUBLIC—NO. 277—63D CONGRESS.]

[H. R. 2504.]

An Act To amend section two of an Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution."

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section two of an Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution," approved February twentieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. That the said society is authorized to hold real and personal estate in the United States, so far only as may be necessary to its lawful ends, to an amount not exceeding \$1,000,000, and may adopt a constitution and make by-laws not inconsistent with law, and may adopt a seal.

"The said society shall have its headquarters or principal office at Washington, in the District of Columbia."

Approved, March 3, 1915.

# Constitution

## ARTICLE I.

### *Name.*

The name of this Society shall be THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

## ARTICLE II.

### *Objects of the Society*

The objects of this Society are:

(1) To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence, by the acquisition and protection of historical spots, and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries.

(2) To carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion, and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens.

(3) To cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

## ARTICLE III.

### *Eligibility.*

SECTION 1. Any woman not less than eighteen years of age, who is descended from a man or woman who gave unfailing loyal service to the cause of American independence as a recognized patriot, soldier, sailor, or civil officer, in one of the several Colonies or States, or of the United Colonies or States, is eligible to membership in the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution;—provided she is personally acceptable.

## ARTICLE IV.

### *Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President General, twenty-one Vice Presidents General, no two of whom shall be from the same state, or territory, or the District of Columbia, or the Orient, a Chaplain General, a Recording Secretary General, a Corresponding Secretary General, an Organizing

Secretary General, a Treasurer General, a Registrar General, a Historian General, a Librarian General, a Curator General, and a Reporter General to the Smithsonian Institution.

## ARTICLE V.

### *Continental Congress.*

This Society shall hold an annual meeting at Washington, D. C., during the week in which the 19th of April falls, unless otherwise ordered by a vote of two-thirds of the entire National Board of Management, which vote may be taken by mail. This meeting shall be known as the Continental Congress of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and shall be for the purpose of receiving reports of officers, of the National Board of Management, and of Committees; for the election of officers, and for any other business that may arise.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *Amendments.*

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Continental Congress, except one at which the officers other than Vice Presidents General are elected, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent by the National Board of Management to all chapters of the National Society at least sixty, and not more than ninety, days before the Continental Congress; and provided further that the amendment has been proposed by the National Board of Management, or by a chapter, or by a committee authorized by the Continental Congress. In case the amendment is proposed by a chapter, it must be endorsed by at least nine other chapters, these ten chapters being located in at least five different states.

SECTION 2. Amendments to this Constitution shall take effect at the close of the Continental Congress at which they are adopted.

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## **By-Laws**

## ARTICLE I.

### *Qualifications of Members.*

SECTION 1. An applicant for membership must be endorsed by two members in good standing, one of whom at least must live in the same town in which the applicant resides, provided there is a chapter in that town. If there is no chapter, at least one of the endorsers must be a resident in that state. The applicant shall present her application, thus endorsed and accompanied by the required initiation fee and annual dues, to the National Society in one of two ways; through a chapter, or as a member

at large. If the application is made through a chapter it must be approved by the chapter or its board of management, as the chapter may decide. If it is made as a member at large it must be approved by the State Regent of the state in which the applicant resides. The application thus approved and accompanied by the initiation fee and annual dues shall be sent by the chapter or State Regent, as the case may be, to the Treasurer General, who shall transmit the application papers to the Registrar General. The Registrar General shall report on the eligibility of the applicant to the National Board of Management which shall vote upon the question of admission to membership. A majority vote shall elect. In case the applicant is not elected, the money paid by the applicant shall be returned.

SECTION 2. When an applicant from the Society of the Children of the American Revolution presents a card of transfer accompanied by application papers of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution through a chapter or through the State Regent in the state in which the applicant resides, showing that she was in good standing in the Society of the Children of the American Revolution up to the age of eighteen years, and the card of transfer was given and presented within a year thereafter, she shall be admitted to membership by the National Board of Management, provided she is acceptable, and shall be exempt from the payment of initiation fee to the National Society.

SECTION 3. All persons whose applications were approved on or before October 11, 1891, are charter members of the National Society.

SECTION 4. The daughters of the men who fought in the War of the American Revolution for the freedom of this country shall be honorary members of the National Society and shall be known as Real Daughters.

SECTION 5. Each member of the National Society shall be entitled to a certificate of membership, duly attested by the President General, the Recording Secretary General, and the Registrar General, to which is affixed the seal of the National Society.

SECTION 6. A member at large shall not be eligible to be a delegate or an alternate to the meetings of the National Society or a State Conference, or to hold a National or State office, or to serve on a National or State committee.

## ARTICLE II.

### *Election of Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers of the National Society, with the exception of the Vice Presidents General, shall be elected by ballot at the regular meeting of the Continental Congress every third year. Seven Vice Presidents General shall be elected by ballot



each year, for a term of three years, at the regular meeting of the Continental Congress. If more than seven candidates for Vice President General receive a majority vote, the seven receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; and in case the seven highest cannot be determined on account of a tie, lots shall be cast under the direction of the tellers.

SECTION 2. The officers of this Society shall hold office for three years or until their successors are elected, and, with the exception of the Treasurer General, their term of office shall begin at the close of the session at which they are elected. The term of office of the Treasurer General shall begin when she has secured a bond acceptable to the National Board of Management.

SECTION 3. No member shall be eligible to a National office until she has been a member of the National Society for at least two years. No member shall be eligible to the same National office for two successive terms, and no member who has served one term in any National office, except that of Vice President General, shall be eligible to any National office, except that of President General, until the expiration of at least one year. A member having served more than one-half of a term in a National office shall be deemed to have served a term.

SECTION 4. Nominations of candidates for office shall be from the floor. A candidate for the office of Vice President General must have been endorsed by a majority of the delegates at the state conference of the State in which she resides. A majority of the votes cast by ballot by members of the Continental Congress shall elect.

SECTION 5. No member shall hold more than one National office at the same time.

SECTION 6. In recognition of valuable service to the organization, Honorary Presidents General and Honorary Vice Presidents General may be elected for life at any Continental Congress by a two-thirds vote, provided the number of Honorary Vice Presidents General shall at no time exceed thirteen. In case there are more nominees for Honorary Vice Presidents General than there are places to be filled, the election shall be by ballot. No member shall be eligible to an honorary office who has not filled the National office with the corresponding name. An honorary office shall carry with it no privilege excepting the right to attend sessions of the Continental Congress.

SECTION 7. Should the office of President General become vacant, the Recording Secretary General shall call a special meeting of the National Board of Management, giving at least two weeks notice, stating time, place, and purpose of the call, and the National Board of Management shall by ballot elect a Vice President General to be called Acting President General,

to perform the duties of the office of President General until the next meeting of the Continental Congress, when a President General shall be elected to fill the unexpired term. The Recording Secretary General shall open the meeting and preside until the election is completed.

SECTION 8. Vacancies in other National offices except those of Vice Presidents General shall be filled by the National Board of Management until the next meeting of the Continental Congress, at least ten days notice of the vacancy having been given in the call for the meeting of the National Board of Management. The election shall be by ballot.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Duties of Officers.*

SECTION 1. *President General.* The President General shall preside at all meetings of the National Society, of the National Board of Management, and of the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as are specified in the parliamentary authority adopted by the National Society and as are provided for in the rules of the National Society. She shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees.

SECTION 2. *Vice Presidents General.* In the absence of the President General from any meeting of the National Society or of the National Board of Management, except that at which a vacancy in the office of President General is to be filled, one of the Vice Presidents General shall be elected to perform the duties of the President General.

SECTION 3. *Chaplain General.* The Chaplain General shall open all meetings of the Society with the reading of Scripture and prayer, and shall conduct such religious services as occasion may require. She shall have direction of the publication of the Remembrance Book.

SECTION 4. *Recording Secretary General.* The Recording Secretary General shall keep a record of all the meetings of the National Society, the National Board of Management, and the Executive Committee; have charge of the seal; give due notice of all meetings of the National Society or National Board of Management or Executive Committee; give due notice to all General Officers and Chapters of all votes, orders and proceedings affecting or appertaining to their duties, and generally perform such acts as pertain to her office.

SECTION 5. *Corresponding Secretary General.* The Corresponding Secretary General shall attend to the correspondence of her office and to such other correspondence as the National Society, the National Board of Management, or the Executive Committee may direct; open and distribute to the proper offices all mail directed to the National Society of the Daughters of the

American Revolution; and distribute all pamphlets, circulars and supplies gratuitously issued, as directed by the National Board of Management or Executive Committee.

SECTION 6. *Organizing Secretary General.* The Organizing Secretary General shall receive through the State Regents all applications for authority to organize chapters and appoint Organizing Regents, and shall present the same to the National Board of Management for its action, and shall notify the Organizing Regent of her appointment, and send instructions. She shall, in connection with the respective State Regents, have supervision of the organization of chapters. She shall issue charters, when duly executed by the proper officers of the National Society and signed by the State Regent, to the chapters entitled to the same. She shall keep a record of the following facts regarding each chapter of the National Society; name and date of organization of the chapter; names of organizing members and officers; date of issuance of charters; also complete record of all officers of chapters. She shall keep a complete catalogue of the membership of the National Society. She shall keep a list of all State Regents and State Vice Regents and present the names of the State Regents and State Vice Regents elect to the Continental Congress for confirmation. She shall issue all commissions to National Officers, State Regents, State Vice Regents, and Organizing Regents.

SECTION 7. *Treasurer General.* The Treasurer General shall have charge of the funds and securities of the National Society. She shall deposit the same in such banking institutions, in the City of Washington, as the National Board of Management shall select, to the credit of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and draw thereon by check, for payment of bills duly authorized.

All bills, except such as the National Board of Management shall specifically exempt, shall be countersigned by the Chairman or Acting Chairman of the Finance Committee. The Treasurer General shall make an annual report to the Continental Congress. Her account shall be audited monthly by an expert accountant, chosen by the Auditing Committee and approved by the National Board of Management. Her report and account shall be submitted to the Auditing Committee. She shall give bond for the faithful discharge of the duties above defined.

SECTION 8. *Registrar General.* The Registrar General shall keep a register of the names and dates of the election of all members of the several chapters and of the National Society at large, and shall have the care and custody of all applications for membership, duplicates of which, properly approved by the National Officers, shall be retained by the registrars of the chapters. The Registrar General shall examine all applications for membership, and approve the same if the applicant is found eligible; if not,



she shall return such papers for correction, pointing out defects. She shall make all corrections to ancestors' records and carry on all correspondence connected with them, as well as with all other genealogical matters pertaining to the duties of the Registrar General's office. She shall report all applications to the National Board of Management for final action.

SECTION 9. *Historian General.* The Historian General shall take charge of all the historical and biographical manuscripts or collections of which the National Society may become possessed and shall catalogue and arrange the same. She shall place in the library all of these documents suitable for such placing, place in the Museum any such documents that deserve a place under glass, and place those needing protection in a fireproof repository. She shall prepare, for official publication by the National Society, historical and biographical sketches of the Revolutionary ancestry of members and of distinguished women of the Revolution.

SECTION 10. *Librarian General.* The Librarian General shall have the care and custody of all books, magazines, and pamphlets, of which the National Society may become possessed, and shall catalogue and arrange the same, with the exception of those provided for elsewhere. She shall have charge of soliciting gifts, negotiating exchanges and purchasing new volumes for the library. She shall have the power, subject to the approval of the National Board of Management, of rejecting any volumes offered to the library which she deems unsuited to the character of the collection. She shall carry on the correspondence of the library and shall have complete supervision of its administration.

SECTION 11. *Curator General.* The Curator General shall have charge of the museum and custody of all articles of the Revolutionary Period, including textiles, glass, china, metals, and such manuscripts, newspapers and books as need to be preserved under glass and such text books as may assist her in the pursuance of her work, and shall catalogue and arrange the same. She shall have the privilege of soliciting gifts, and, subject to the approval of the National Board of Management, she may purchase articles for the museum, and reject any gifts offered to the museum, which she deems unsuited to the character of the collection. She shall carry on the correspondence of the museum and shall have complete supervision of its administration.

SECTION 12. *Reporter General to the Smithsonian Institution.* The Reporter General to the Smithsonian Institution shall report annually to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution concerning the proceedings of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, as provided for in the act of incorporation.

## ARTICLE IV.

### *Meetings of the National Society.*

SECTION 1. Special meetings of the National Society shall be called by the President General when directed to do so by a majority vote of the National Board of Management, there being at least twenty-five members of the National Board of Management voting therefor, or when requested in writing to do so by twenty-five or more chapters representing at least ten states. Thirty days notice shall be given of such called meeting, specifying the time, place of meeting, and the special business to be transacted.

SECTION 2. The voting members at the Continental Congress or at any other meeting of the National Society shall be the officers of the National Society; the State Regent, or, in her absence, the State Vice Regent, of each state and territory, the District of Columbia, and the Orient; and the regent, or in her absence, the vice regent, and delegates, or their alternates, of each chapter, in the United States and foreign countries.

SECTION 3. One hundred voting members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the National Society.

## ARTICLE V.

### *Dues.*

SECTION 1. The initiation fee shall be one dollar.

SECTION 2. The annual dues shall be two dollars, *payable in advance*, on or before January 1st.

SECTION 3. One dollar of the dues collected from each member of a chapter shall be sent by the chapter treasurer to the Treasurer General on or before January 5th of each year.

SECTION 4. The whole amount of annual dues of a member at large shall be sent by her to the Treasurer General on or before January 1st of each year.

SECTION 5. One hundred dollars paid at one time as dues by a member shall make her a life member and shall exempt her from further dues, except such as may be levied by the chapter of which she is a member. One-half of this amount shall be sent to the Treasurer General, and one-half retained by the chapter to which the member belongs.

SECTION 6. The whole amount of the life membership fee of a member at large shall be sent by her to the Treasurer General.

SECTION 7. A member who has not paid her dues according to the requirements of the Constitution shall not be entitled to representation at the Continental Congress, nor shall she be entitled to vote for delegates or alternates, or to resign from membership. If such delinquent, after three notices from the Treasurer General (at least a month apart), have been sent her of unpaid dues, does not pay her indebtedness within six months

after the amount is due, she shall automatically be dropped from the roll of members. Notice of such action shall be sent within ten days to the member at large or to the regent of the chapter to which the member belonged, and reported at the next meeting of the National Board of Management.

SECTION 8. A member dropped for non-payment of dues may be reinstated by the National Board of Management only upon the payment of her indebtedness to the Chapter and through the chapter to the National Society, or if a member at large, to the National Society.

SECTION 9. A member who has been admitted by the National Society on or after July 1st in any year shall not be required to pay dues again until January 1st of the second year thereafter.

SECTION 10. Real Daughters shall be exempt from the payment of initiation fees and dues.

SECTION 11. A member at large, in good standing, desiring to become a member of a chapter, if approved by the chapter or its board of management, as the chapter may decide, shall be entitled to a transfer card from the National Society, and if such chapter be a new chapter, half of her annual dues for the current year shall be paid to said chapter on demand of the chapter treasurer upon the Treasurer General, provided she enters the chapter within six months after said dues became payable to the National Society.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *National Board of Management.*

SECTION 1. The officers of the National Society, the State Regent, or, in her absence, the State Vice Regent of each State and territory, the District of Columbia, and the Orient, shall constitute the National Board of Management.

SECTION 2. The officers of the National Society shall *ex officio* be officers of the National Board of Management.

SECTION 3. The National Board of Management shall be the trustee of Memorial Continental Hall, and all other property, real and personal, of the National Society.

SECTION 4. The National Board of Management shall meet on the call of the President General at least four times during the year, ten or more days notice of time and place of meeting having been given. Special meetings may be called by the President General, and shall be called upon the written request of ten members of the Board. At least ten days notice of time and place of such meetings shall be given.

SECTION 5. Seven members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the National Board of Management.

SECTION 6. The National Board of Management shall have all power and authority over the affairs of the National Society

during the interim between the meetings of the National Society, excepting that of modifying any action taken by the Continental Congress or other meeting of the National Society, provided that no debt or liability except for ordinary current expenses shall be incurred by the National Board of Management, and that no project or plan requiring the expenditure of money shall be entered into for which the National Society shall be held responsible except by an affirmative vote of at least twenty-five members of the National Board of Management.

SECTION 7. The National Board of Management shall make an annual report to the Continental Congress.

SECTION 8. The National Board of Management is authorized to adopt rules for the transaction of its business, provided they do not conflict with the rules of the National Society.

## ARTICLE VII.

### *Executive Committee.*

At the first meeting of the National Board of Management following the Continental Congress each year, the President General is authorized to appoint from that body seven members, subject to the approval of the National Board of Management, who, together with the President General and the Recording Secretary General, shall constitute an Executive Committee. The National Board of Management may authorize this Committee to perform such duties of the Board between its meetings as it may from time to time deem expedient. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President General, or upon the written request of five members of the Committee. It shall make a complete report at each meeting of the National Board of Management.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### *Committees.*

After the close of each Continental Congress the President General shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

Finance Committee  
Auditing Committee  
Printing Committee

The duties of the above committees shall be such as usually pertain to committees of like character, and such as may be defined by the National Board of Management.

The President General shall appoint such other committees as are authorized by the Continental Congress or the National Board of Management.

## ARTICLE IX.

### *Chapters.*

SECTION 1. All persons duly qualified, who have been regularly admitted by the National Board of Management, shall be members of the National Society, but for purposes of convenience they may be organized into local chapters.

SECTION 2. Chapters may be organized in one of the following three ways:

(a) The State Regent is authorized to appoint in a locality where no chapter exists, an Organizing Regent who must be a member at large in good standing. This appointment shall be sent to the Organizing Secretary General who shall present it to the National Board of Management for approval or rejection. It shall be the duty of the Organizing Regent to endeavor to secure at least twelve members at large who are desirous of forming a chapter. After at least twelve members have been secured, the Organizing Regent shall call a meeting and organize the chapter. She shall *ex officio* be the regent of the chapter to serve until the first annual meeting and shall appoint the other necessary officers to serve until the first annual meeting. The office of Organizing Regent expires by limitation if no chapter is formed within two years.

(b) With the approval of the State Regent and of the National Board of Management, twelve members at large of the National Society may form a chapter in a city, town, or village, where no chapter exists. They are empowered to elect their own officers.

(c) In a locality where there is already a chapter an additional chapter may be organized, provided the existing chapter or chapters has reached a membership of at least fifty and, provided the organization of the chapter is approved by the State Regent and the National Board of Management, and provided such additional chapter shall contain at least twenty-five members who have joined the National Society not more than six months previous to the date at which they organize.

SECTION 3. Members who unite to organize a chapter, if members of other chapters, must be transferred to membership-at-large prior to organization of the new chapter.

SECTION 4. The officers of a chapter shall be a regent, a vice regent, a secretary, a treasurer, a registrar, and such other officers as the chapter may desire. Each chapter shall have the power to conduct its local affairs and is authorized to adopt rules for the transaction of its business, provided they do not conflict with the Constitution and by-laws of the National Society.

SECTION 5. When an applicant for membership is approved by a chapter or its board of management, her application shall be signed by the chapter regent, secretary, and registrar, before



being forwarded for final action by the National Board of Management.

SECTION 6. Delegates and alternates to any meeting of the National Society must be elected on or before March 1st of each year, and a typewritten list of these delegates and alternates must be sent at once to the chairman of the credential committee and the State Regent.

SECTION 7. A member must have belonged to a chapter at least one year before she is eligible to serve as a delegate from that chapter to the Continental Congress.

SECTION 8. Each chapter, excepting those that have been organized in a locality where there was already a chapter, shall be entitled to be represented at the Continental Congress or special meeting of the National Society by its regent, or in her absence, by its vice regent. A chapter that has been organized in a locality where there was already a chapter shall be entitled to be represented at the Continental Congress or special meeting of the National Society by its regent, or in her absence, by its vice regent, when it has attained a membership of at least twenty-five. Chapters having fifty members and not exceeding one hundred members shall be entitled to be represented by one delegate, in addition to its regent. Chapters having more than one hundred members shall be entitled to one delegate for each additional one hundred members. Regents and delegates shall be entitled to alternates, but no more than ten alternates shall be elected from any chapter. A chapter regent is authorized to fill vacancies in its delegation to the Continental Congress from duly elected alternates.

SECTION 9. A member in good and regular standing desiring to be transferred from one chapter to another, or to membership at large, shall be entitled to a transfer card signed by the regent, treasurer, and registrar of her chapter. A member at large in good and regular standing desiring to be transferred to a chapter shall be entitled to a transfer card signed by the Treasurer General and the Registrar General. Transfer cards must be accompanied by duplicate application papers for which the member transferred shall pay a fee of twenty-five cents for each Revolutionary ancestor. Such transfer must be at once reported by the chapter to the Treasurer General.

No chapter may issue a transfer card to another chapter unless the member desiring to be transferred has met all requirements for admission to the chapter to which such card of transfer is issued.

SECTION 10. A member in good and regular standing may resign from membership in the National Society to date from the time the resignation is received in the office of the Treasurer General, said resignation to be reported by the Treasurer General at the next regular meeting of the National Board of Management.

SECTION 11. Chapter treasurers shall report to the Treasurer General on the first of January, June and November all changes in membership between the dates of reports, members in arrears, marriages, and deaths of members. The fees and dues sent to the Treasurer General by the chapter treasurer must be accompanied by an alphabetical list of the members to whom the dues shall be accredited.

SECTION 12. Chapters shall report to the Organizing Secretary General the election of officers and date of election.

SECTION 13. Chapters may elect associate members, but persons so elected must be members in good standing in the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, and such associate members shall not be counted in the membership of the chapter for representation at the Continental Congress or State Conference, and they shall have no right to vote or hold office in the chapter.

SECTION 14. Chapters must not be named for living persons. No chapter can take for its use the name of historic property owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution of a State, or by another chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, or the name of a chapter already organized.

SECTION 15. A chapter may by its own by-laws provide for additional dues for its own use.

SECTION 16. Chapters shall send annually to the Reporter General to the Smithsonian Institution such report as she may request, this being obligatory under the Charter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution.

## ARTICLE X.

### *State Conferences.*

SECTION 1. The chapters of each state and territory, the District of Columbia, and the Orient shall organize a State Conference which shall meet annually. These conferences shall elect a State Regent, a State Vice Regent, and such other State officers as they may deem necessary, and shall make their own laws and regulations, which shall not conflict with the Constitution and By-laws of the National Society. The election of State Regents and State Vice-Regents must be confirmed by the Continental Congress, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the Congress at which they were confirmed.

SECTION 2. The voting members of the State Conference of any state shall be its officers, the officers of the National Society whose residence is within that state, chapter regents, or in their absence, the vice regents, and the delegates or their alternates from the chapters of the state. The number of delegates from each chapter shall be determined by the rules for representation

of chapters in the Continental Congress, except that the State Conference may increase this representation in a uniform ratio.

Each State Conference is authorized to fix a time previous to its annual meeting when the number of delegates to which a chapter is entitled shall be determined.

SECTION 3. In a state or territory where no State Conference is held the state officers shall be elected at the Continental Congress by the delegates to that body from the respective states or territories.

SECTION 4. No State Regent or State Vice Regent shall be elected who is not an actual resident of the state she represents. The right to elect an Honorary State Regent shall belong to the voting members of the State Conference. No one may be elected Honorary State Regent unless she has held the office of State Regent.

SECTION 5. A State Conference may by its own by-laws provide for dues for its own use, and chapters failing to pay such dues shall not be entitled to representation at the meetings of the State Conference.

## ARTICLE XI.

### *Discipline.*

✓ SECTION 1. Any member conducting herself, either at the chapter meetings or elsewhere, in a way calculated to disturb the harmony of the National Society or to impair its good name or prosperity, or to injure the reputation of any member thereof, may after thorough investigation be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled, by the National Board of Management.

SECTION 2. No complaint or charge against any member shall be considered by the National Board of Management until such complaint or charge has been made in writing, signed by at least five members of the National Society, and until the person complained against shall have been furnished a copy of such complaint or charge, and given at least three weeks in which to answer and defend, which answer and defense shall be made by the person complained of, or by her representative. Any member presenting complaint to the National Board shall appear in person or by her representative.

SECTION 3. Any person against whom sentence of reprimand, suspension, or expulsion has been pronounced by the National Board of Management, may apply to such National Board of Management for a rehearing upon the ground of newly discovered evidence, or upon the ground of fraud in the procurement of such sentence, and a refusal of such rehearing may be appealed within two months to the Continental Congress, provided notice of such appeal is given at least two weeks before the meeting of the Continental Congress.



## ARTICLE XII.

### *Seal*

The seal of the National Society shall be one and seven-eighths of



an inch in diameter, charged with the figure of a dame of the Revolutionary time sitting at her spinning wheel, with thirteen stars above her, the whole surrounded by a rim containing the legend, "The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776-1890," and the motto, "Home and Country".

## ARTICLE XIII.

### *Insignia*

The insignia of the National Society shall consist of a badge in



the form of a spinning wheel and distaff. IT SHALL BE CARRIED ONLY ON THE LEFT BREAST. The wheel is seven-eighths of an inch in diameter and of gold, with thirteen spokes, and a field of dark-blue enamel upon its tire bearing the name of the National Society in letters of gold. Upon its outer rim, opposite the ends of the spokes, are thirteen small stars, which may be set with precious stones at the discretion of the owner. Underneath the wheel is a golden distaff, one and one-half inches long, filled with platinum flax. Upon the back of

the wheel the registration number of the owner shall be engraved, and her name may be added. The ribbon to be worn with the wheel is dark blue with a white edge, ribbed and watered, following the colors of Washington's staff. The badge for informal wear shall be the insignia of the National Society, engraved or otherwise impressed upon a material enclosed in a gold or other rim. A rosette of the prescribed ribbon, attached to a stick-pin, may be worn as an informal badge upon ordinary occasions. Distinctive ancestral bars shall be patented by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Insignia, Recognition Pin, and Ancestral Bars shall be issued only by permit from the Registrar-General.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

##### *Parliamentary Authority.*

SECTION 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern this Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and by-laws of the National Society.

SECTION 2. Each Continental Congress may, by a two-thirds vote, or by a majority vote of all its members, adopt such additional rules of order as it may deem advisable for the government of that session, provided they are not in conflict with the rules of this Society.

#### ARTICLE XV.

##### *Amendments.*

SECTION 1. These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Continental Congress, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent by the National Board of Management to all chapters of the National Society at least sixty, and not more than ninety days, before the Continental Congress; and provided further that the amendment has been proposed by the National Board of Management, or by a chapter, or by a committee authorized by the Continental Congress. In case the amendment is proposed by a chapter, it must be endorsed by at least nine other chapters, these ten chapters being located in at least five different states.

SECTION 2. Amendments to these By-laws shall take effect at the close of the Continental Congress at which they are adopted.



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